With regard to what kind of credit they are giving to the farmers and other things, it is for the State Co-operative Banks and their branches as well as the Land Development Banks to look into it.

SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA: Who are those who waived the loans given to the farmers?

SHRI B. K. GADHVI: Whatever the information, that any State Government directly went to NABARD for repayment and that NABARD refused it, if it is so, I will find it out and let the honourable Member know about it.

Clearance of Telugu Ganga Project

*48. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN :†
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Telugu Ganga Project has been given clearance by the Centre;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Central Government have received any request from Andhra Pradesh Government for clearance of the Telugu Ganga Project with reference to its rights under the Bachawat Award; and

(d) if so, what steps the Central Government have taken to resolve the dispute between the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Inter-state issues are not resolved.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) An inter-state meeting at Chief Minister's level was fixed in September, 1988. The meeting did not materialise.

SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is unfortunate that the honourable Minister has said that no clearance has been given by the Centre so far. In recent years, Madras city has been facing acute water scarcity and so the people of Madras city are anxiously waiting for earlier clearance of the Telugu Ganga project. Unfortunately we, the people of Tamil Nadu, have to depend upon the neighbouring States and their river waters either for irrigation purposes or for drinking purposes. Whether it is the Cauvery dispute or the Telugu Ganga dispute, no solution has been found and so no accord has been reached. Sir, the Centre has to play an important role and they should not shirk their responsiblity. There should not be any suspicion in the minds of the people of Tamil Nadu that the Centre is playing politics.

The honourable Minister has mentioned that in the year 1988 a meeting of the Chief Ministers had been fixed but it did not materialise. In view of the all this I would like to know from the honourable Minister what actions have been taken to call a Chief Ministers' meeting, when they are expected to meet and where. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister what are the special reasons for the inordinate delay in the clearance of this project.

SHRI M. M. JACOB : It is the desire and anxiety of the Government to provide water to Tamil

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Pasumpon Tha. Kiruttinan.

Nadu. That was the precise reason why the whole project was thought of. Even in 1976, the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi convened a meeting of the States of Maharashtra, Andhra and Karnataka. It was decided at that time that each State would give 5 TMC of water to Madras for drinking water purposes. But certain problems came out. One of the States felt that it shall not be exclusively for water in Madras alone. The Telugu-Ganga project must also have some other requirements in the State and requirement of water for irrigation also has to be taken note of. But the agreement did not provide for that. The Government made all efforts to convene a meeting of the Chief Ministers of the concerned States for a solution. Even now the Government is anxious for such a meeting.

As you know I have taken charge of the Ministry very recently. I am making conscious efforts to see how we can convene a meeting of the Chief Ministers as early as possible to resolve this problem.

SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN : Recently our Chief Minister had been to Hyderabad and he had a meeting with the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. Some of the agreements have been reached. It is seen from the reply of the hon. Minister that the hon. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has sent a request to the Centre to clear the project. I would like to know what are the steps that have been taken by the Centre to clear this project.

SHRI M. M. JACOB : This project had a lot of objections in the beginning. This Ministry had written several times to the Andhra Pradesh Government to clear those objections and obstructions that are there. One was about the water availability study. (*Interruptions*). No, I am talking about the whole experiences. So, water availability study did not include any simulation study. That was one point of objection. The Andhra Pradesh Government met all the requirements subsequently and informed us very recently its views in its replies. (*Interruptions*) Again we had problems. No detailed geological foundation investigation had been carried out for three proposed reservoirs. That was another reason. Like that boring areas survey, including the testing of soil samples had not been carried out. There were objections from the Environment Ministry also to a great extent, but, fortunately, the Environment Ministry has cleared some of the issues. Now, there are some more issues pending. Those will be immediately looked into and efforts would be made to convene a conference. Unless all the States agree, we cannot go ahead with the project. That is the problem.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY : The Central Government which should be an arbitter and referee for any inter-State dispute, now is observing like an ostrich. He is saying they are withholding certain consent and permission. But even without the permission from the Centre, the work is going on very fast. So, what is the meaning of withholding their consent ? As the Minister stated that the late Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, gave an assurance that she had secured 15 TMC of water from Krishna., my qestion is what has the Centre done so far ? Is it not their responsibility to honour the assurance given by the late Prime Ministers.

SHRI M. M. JACOB : Yes, Sir. We are still sticking on to the assurance given by the late Prime Minister, but looking at the agreement which was arrived at, you will find that line channel between Srisailam and Somasila from the point of off-take agree upon by Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu shall not

be utilised for irrigation and other consumptive purposes, Now, the water is to be utilised for Rayalaseema and delta area for irrigation. But the other States are not agreeing.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY : That is not the demand of Andhra Pradesh. That is the demand of your Congress Party. In Andhra Pradesh the Congress Party is mostly responsible for the extension of the scheme.

SHRI M. M. JACOB : No, you are not correct. We are really anxious to see that water is provided to Tamil Nadu.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY : You are not serious so far as the drinking water problem of Madras is concerned. The original scheme was changed because of your pressure. We have no objection to giving water to rural ares.

MR. CHARIMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Test results pertaining to pesticide contents in the Ganga river water

*41. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether pesticide contents in the Ganga river water is being monitored under the Ganga Action Plan and if so, the details of pesticides tested and results obtained yearwise and seasonwise during the last three years, indicating the highest pesticide contents, reported on any given date;

(b) whether analysis is conducted on all the pesticides registered so far and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any remedial measures have been taken on these findings through publicity and warnings to factories etc. and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir, The Ganga Project Directorate commissioned the Industrial Toxicology Research Centre (ITRC), Lucknow, to conduct a study entitled Scheme for Management of Ganga River Quality, for the period July, 1986 to June, 1989. A statement based upon an interim report received recently from the ITRC for the period ending December, 1988, is placed below in annexure. [*See* Appendix CLI, Annexure No. 9].

(b) Those pesticides are tested/analysed which are commonly used and are persistent.

(c) The report referred to above, has been recently received. Since pesticide pollution is mainly on account of agricultural operations and is indicative of over use and abuse, the Agricultural Departments of the State Governments have been addressed in the matter. They have also been requested to compile quarterly data on the use of pesticides vis-a-vis the cropped area and the cropping pattern Tahsil/Block wise to identify the areas of over use and abuse, with a view to educating farmers for input management and proper use of pest control measures. Publicity has also been initiated through the medium of seminars. Simultaneously, further studies have been taken up through the Indian Agricultural Research Institute which would help in identification of areas and extent of pesticide pollution along the Ganga. None of the 30 polluting industries on the Ganga against whom action has been initiated under the Environment Protection Act, 1986, is manufactuing pesticides.